the country. Moreover, the views expressed in the report are of the concerned researcher and not of the institute or of the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

BPOs are covered under the existing labour laws. The State Governments are the "appropriate Government" under the various labour laws and legally vested with powers to deal with violation of labour laws in BPO Sector.

Amendment of Plantation Labour Act

2364. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposal for amendment of Plantation Labour Act from Assam Government;

(b) if so, why there is delay in bringing the amendment in the Parliament to the above Act in the interest of workers;

(c) whether there is any proposal for bringing amendment in the Bonus Act, considering more incentives to the workers; and

(d) whether there is any proposal for enhancing the rate of interest on Employees Provident Fund deposit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The Central Government consulted the State Government on the proposal for amendment of Plantation Labour Act, 1951. The comments of the Assam Government have been received along with the comments of the concerned State Governments. The proposal is under further examination.

(c) Taking into consideration of the recommendations made by the Second National Commission on Labour, a proposal to enhance the eligibility limit for Payment of Bonus from salary or wage of Rs. 3,500/- p.m. to Rs. 7,500/- p.m. and the calculation ceiling from Rs. 2,500/- p.m. to Rs. 3,500/- p.m. under the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 is under active consideration of the Ministry.

(d) The rate of interest on EPF deposits is determined by the Central Government in consultation with the Central Board of Trustees, Employees

Provident Fund. No recommendations have so far been made by the Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund to the Government on the rate of interest for the 2006-07.

Notification on Fixed Term Employment

2365. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the tripartite meeting held on 21st June, 2006, the issue of Fixed Term Employment was discussed and Trade Unions insisted on issuing the final notification immediately as per notification dated 30th September, 2004;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government;

(c) whether minutes of the meeting have been circulated; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (d) A meeting with the employers and employees was held on 21st June, 2006 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Labour & Employment, to discuss the issues with regard to amendment to the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946. In the meeting, representatives of the Trade Unions insisted on issuance of the final notification dated 30th September, 2004. However, the employer representatives favoured its retention. A record of discussions of the proceedings of this meeting has been kept for further consideration of the matter. Final decision in this regard is yet to be taken.

Education and vocational training to child labourers in M.P.

†2366. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the districts of Madhya Pradesh where resettlement of child labourers is being done through education and vocational training, after getting them surveyed through labour projects; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.